

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kouichi TOZUKA, et al.

Appln. No. Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.:Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 11, 2002

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

#3  
TL  
2-11-04



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
Attorney Docket No. Q67113

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

**English language abstracts of Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Nos. 5-216322, 7-301939 and 7-30752 are submitted herewith and constitutes concise statements of relevance of the respective references.**

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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<p>Substitute for form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Confirmation Number</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>February 11, 2002</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Kouichi TOZUKA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Not Yet Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Attorney Docket Number</td> </tr> </table> <p>100-071181 U.S. PTO 11/11/02</p>		Application Number	Not Yet Assigned	Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned	Filing Date	February 11, 2002	First Named Inventor	Kouichi TOZUKA	Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	Attorney Docket Number	
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

#### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.